

MUSKEGON COUNTY

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MUSKEGON COUNTY AIRPORT RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL AWARD

When it snows 2" or more at the airport, the response can best be described as an emergency response. The countless hours of planning and preparation come together to battle the elements. The goal is to be accessible 100% of the time, regardless of weather conditions. This year proved an even greater challenge for three reasons: 1) above average snowfall of 109"; 2) short staffing, and; 3) the breakdown of the primary snow removal vehicle, the 22' Oshkosh Broom. Despite the challenges, the staff, led by Maintenance Supervisor Mike Kotecki, rose to the challenge, battled Mother Nature, and won. The airport never closed due to poor field conditions. To honor the efforts of the airport staff, the Northeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives awarded Muskegon County Airport the 2007-2008 Balchen/Post Award in the small commercial service category for excellence in the performance of snow and ice control.

Please join me in congratulating everyone at the Airport responsible for snow and ice removal:

Mike Kotecki	Russ Larson
John Bowler	Craig Kruzel
Mike Austgen	Gary Nielsen
Trina Walker	Josie Rose
Gail Anderson	Kathy Sluyter

Please see the attached news release for details. You may contact me at 231-798-4596, x220 for further questions.



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THE BALCHEN / POST AWARD

FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF AIRPORT SNOW AND ICE CONTROL



For Immediate Release

At the 42nd Annual International Aviation Snow Symposium on April 30th, 2008 in Buffalo, NY; awards were presented to the "Snow Crews" of the airports in the Snow Belt for their dedicated efforts in maintaining their airports in safe and operational status during the 2007 – 2008 winter season. This is the 32nd consecutive year that such awards have been presented. All categories of airports – Commercial, General Aviation and Military - compete for these awards.

Applications are submitted by the airport operators on behalf of the local work force in recognition of their efforts in keeping the airports operationally safe at all times. Recommendations for selection may come from the users of airports, airlines, pilots, general aviation, the military and the entire aviation community. In addition, the members of the Awards Selection Committee provide feedback from their own organizations as to the performance of competing airports.

Awards Selection Committee

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Robert Nowak
International Aviation
Snow Symposium

Bill Phaneuf
Airline Pilots Assn.

David Wagner
U. S. Department of Defense

Deandra Brooks
Aircraft Owners
and Pilots Assn.

The 2007 – 2008 awards were presented to the following airports :

Military Winner 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Whiteman AFB Missouri
Honorable Mention 75th Civil Engineering Squadron Hill AFB Utah

Small General Aviation (Less than 50,000 operations per year)
Winner – Niagara Falls Int'l Airport, Niagara Falls, New York
Honorable Mention – Southwest Michigan Regional Airport, Benton Harbor, MI

Large General Aviation (Over 50,000 operations per year)
Winner – Centennial Airport, Englewood, Colorado
Honorable Mention – L.G. Hanscom Field, Bedford, Massachusetts

Small Commercial (Less than 100,000 operations per year)
Winner – Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon, Michigan

Medium Commercial (100,000 to 200,000 operations per year)
Winner – Buffalo Niagara International Airport, Buffalo, New York
Honorable Mention – Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids, MI

Large Commercial (Over 200,000 operations per year)
Winner – Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport, Montreal, Canada

SPONSORED BY THE NORTHEAST CHAPTER / American Association of Airport Executives

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FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN
AIRPORT SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

2007-2008

SMALL COMMERCIAL AIRPORT

AWARDED TO THE SNOW CREW OF
**MUSKEGON COUNTY
AIRPORT
MUSKEGON, MI**

THE INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SNOW SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY THE
NORTHEAST CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF AIRPORT EXECUTIVES